

Spencer April 6-1840.

Dear Sister

Your letter & Edmunds. together with Mother's bag to Mary - were all safely received to day - but as M. luck would have it. Mary & I were both out - she had gone to Mr. Smiths. & I to a townmeeting - when the Dr. called. He returns tomorrow or next day - when I hope to see him. & will endeavor to be polite. Miss Sprague - a woman who is with us helping Mary about her work. invited him to stay till we came home - but he said no. - Wife wishes me to thank you for your presents to her - & to say they are very acceptable.

Mary is delighted with her bag. & tells me to thank Grandma for her - she says if she gets time before the Dr. returns tomorrow - she shall answer Edmunds letter. & return thanks to Grandma herself.

Mary had a letter from George last week - in which was written some doggerel verses - giving ~~an~~ a description of his "Attick". You probably have received from him a similar effusion. It was not the most sympy thing I ever read - but did very well for a first effort. I have wrote him since his was received - he had had a lame knee - & a swelled face - as I suppose he has told you - but was then very well.

It will be pleasant for Edmund to be with you & Mother - & go to school - I hope he will - as I dare say he will - attend well to his studies,

It will be a good thing for him - to have a quarters school from Rome - that I think his parents will hardly know how to do without him so long.

I sold my farm to Mr Henny, who lives in the house with me & a Mr Bond - They bought ^{it} together. We are now rather thick here - being three families in the "old Mansion" - we have the east room & bedroom - while we stay - it is pretty close work, but we rub & go. - When we get home from the West shall live elsewhere - but do not know now where that will be - perhaps I may engage a house before I go, but of these things I believe I told Mother in my letter to her the other day, so will not repeat them to you. - You may depend upon my writing you, but whether I shall be as "particular" as you may wish - shall not promise. You know well enough, how I hate to write letters, & what a miserable hand I am at description - About the "first impressions" I cannot promise - only that what you get, I think will be "peculiar" to myself.

We shall pass thro the town - were Mr Bilder resides, Marshall - & if can make it convenient, shall give him a call. - I hardly think I shall be able to see you & Mother before we go - shall have so much to attend to - so you will not look for one very hard - I will however write you - or send a paper about the time we start. - While I think of it, I want to tell you of a way I intend to cheat uncle Sam about his postage - if I send you a paper - done up in a white wrapper - I shall write on the inside of the wrapper with milk, which by holding it to the fire

it will show - so that you will be able to read it.
this you will remember - as we may send you a paper
perhaps from the west. - If you have milk plenty you
can do duty. I have not written to Scituate since
we concluded to go the journey, but shall soon, & am
very glad to hear they are well there. I hope
Ellen will ~~be~~ get along well with her school.

Having written to Mother so lately - I hardly
know what to say. Having so good an opportunity
however to write - could not let it pass without
sending a line. Should you wish to write me
before I write you - from the west - you will
direct to me at Plainfield County of Allegan
Michigan. (Care of John N. Watson) Give all - recd
to our dear Mother. Wife & Mary send their
to J. & Edmund, give him mine - I think of
nothing more so good bye -

Ever your affectionate brother

Dennis Ward

My farm brought me a little over \$3000. - cost \$2150;
I have not seen "New Home"

Cousin Edmund Schull at
Schull at Concord 1840

Miss Prudence Ward
Concord

Dr. Gallup }

Ms.

any
one may
write